

MCLB ALBANY SAFETYGRAM

MAKE IT A SAFE-O-WEEN

As Halloween approaches, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is providing tips to prevent injuries to trick- or-treaters. CPSC reported more than 3,500 Halloween-related injuries between October and November last year. Incidents involved burns, lacerations from pumpkin-carving, falls related to ill-fitting costumes, and injuries from collisions due to impaired vision. Pumpkin carving was associated with the most Halloween-related injuries in previous years.

For the first time, CPSC has partnered with Dunkin' Donuts to launch the national *"Mind Your Munchkins Halloween Safety Program"*, which is designed to inform parents and kids on the importance of Halloween safety. Consumers can make this year's holiday a safe one by following but not limiting to, these safety tips on costumes, treats and decorations:

COSTUMES

- Purchase only costumes, masks, beards and wigs, etc. that are flame resistant.
- Ensure costumes fit well and not drag on the ground to guard against trips and falls. Wear fitted sturdy, comfortable footwear.
- Decorate costumes with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a car's headlights.
- Make sure costumes and treat bags are light, bright and clearly visible to motorists.
- Ensure costume accessories are made of soft, flexible materials.
- Wear a mask that provides adequate ventilation and allows full vision.
- Carry flashlights to see and be seen. Walk in groups ensuring adults have a preplanned route.



TREATS

- Examine treats against tampering and check for allergies.
- Examine any toys or novelty items received by trick-or- treaters.
- Do not let young children have small parts that may become a choking hazard.



DECORATIONS

- Remove obstacles from lawns, steps and porches when expecting trick-or-treaters.
- Keep indoor candles and jack-o'-lanterns away from combustible materials and do not leave burning candles unattended.
- Use only lights that have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory. Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections.



Halloween can be a fun time for children and adults alike and the best way to keep it that way is to manage risks and take safety precautions, so we can all have a *spook-tacular* day!

For more info, scan the QR code below or go to www.halloween-safety.com or click on the cat!



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Oct 14

